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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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On Sept 13, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-011500US
Client Ref. No.: 349901489

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kunihiko Miyazaki et al.

Application No.: 09/693,713

Filed: October 19, 2000

For: DIGITAL SIGNING METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 7398

Examiner: Brandon S. Hoffman

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2136

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 12, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 14 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes. An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached to this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 15 of this paper.